

GP-2: GOVERNING STYLE

Adopted: 07/26/00

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09/22/16; 05/25/17

Board of School Trustees

CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Board shall govern lawfully with an emphasis on Balanced Governance™ and strategic leadership on behalf of students. The Board is accountable to the people of Clark County for providing informed oversight to ensure the competent, conscientious and effective accomplishment of the Board Vision, Strategic Imperatives, Pledge of Achievement, and other support strategies, focused on improved learning for all students.

Accordingly:

1. The Board shall practice a balanced governance, by cultivating and enforcing a balance between the oversight role of the Board and the administrative role of the Superintendent. Accordingly, the Board shall use its knowledge of families'/community needs and their judgement as to the District's progress on the Board Vision, Strategic Imperatives, Pledge of Achievement, and other support strategies to initiate and/or approve new or revised policy. The Board shall consistently use relevant data and expertise regarding federal, state, contractual, and staff needs, provided by the Superintendent in initiating and requesting new policy and policy revision and in consideration of policy approval. The Superintendent may also initiate policy and recommend new policy and policy revision to the Board.
2. The Board shall honor diverse viewpoints from the families/community and staff but not substitute individual expertise or interest for the judgement of the Board, although the expertise of individual members may be used to enhance the understanding of the Board as a body.
3. The Board shall govern the organization with informed oversight through the careful establishment of broadly written policies reflecting the needs of the District's students and the families'/community's values and perspectives. The Board's major policy focus shall be on addressing:
 - A. Locally-defined needs and issues.
 - B. Meeting the educational interests of all students.
 - C. Supporting progress toward the Board Vision, Strategic Imperatives, Pledge of Achievement, and other support strategies.
 - D. Improve learning for all students.

In order to provide informed oversight, the Superintendent shall ensure that the Board is knowledgeable of administrative and programmatic means of attaining those effects, but shall delegate the implementation of policy and procedures to the Superintendent. By doing so, the Board shall maintain a balanced role with the Superintendent.

4. The Board shall receive information from the Superintendent which reflects the progress or the need for improvement toward the Board Vision, Strategic Imperatives, Pledge of Achievement, and other support strategies. The Board may craft within policy, tracking and reporting protocols for the Superintendent to ensure quality control and the necessary data to practice informed oversight. Superintendent or staff reporting to the Board during board meetings shall, at a minimum, follow the Balance Governance™ Tracking and Reporting Protocols outlined in item 2A-I of GP-4.2: Board Members' Principles of Operation.
5. The Board shall maintain a professional relationship with the District leadership, faculty and staff. All Board member requests for significant information data or reports, reporting family/community or staff complaints or concerns and requests for substantive staff assistance shall be made exclusively through the Superintendent or the Superintendent's Liaison to the Board of Trustees.
 - A. The Board shall have direct and personal access to the Superintendent or the Superintendent's Liaison to the Board of Trustees, for the purpose of requesting the compilation of reports or significant information, and for reporting staff or family/community concerns and complaints. The choice between contacting the Superintendent directly or the Superintendent's Liaison to the Board of Trustees, shall be determined by the Board member.
 - B. The Board shall hold the Superintendent responsible for acting on and communicating timely updates to Board members regarding significant or problematic requests for information or reports of family/community or staff concerns.
 - C. All employees of the Clark County School District shall be governed by the laws of the state of Nevada in regard to conflicts of interest in their employment. No employee shall, under penalty of law, receive unlawful compensation, commission, or personal profit in the course of performing District duties nor shall the office or position of any employee be used for unlawful purposes or for personal gain.

6. Concerns regarding Board/Superintendent communication, the timely implementation of policy and procedures, or responses to the staff and families/community regarding a Board-reported complaint shall be addressed with the Superintendent through one or more of the following:
 - A. The Balanced Governance™ Progressive process described in item 7A-D of GP-4.2: Board Members' Principles of Operation.
 - B. The Progressive Formative Evaluation process described in B/SL-5: Formative Superintendent and Board Performance Assessment.
 - C. The use of a Balanced Governance™ Organizational Capacity Monitoring System as described in item 8A-F of GP-4.2: Board Members' Principals of Operation.
7. The Board shall govern with excellence in matters such as attendance, preparation for meetings, policymaking principles, respect of roles, adherence to the Balanced Governance™ Standards and personal adherence to the Balanced Governance™ Individual Board Member Characteristics.

Although the Board can change its governance process policies at any time, it shall observe them scrupulously while they are in force. Board members shall be encouraged to follow their governance policies through:

- A. The Board President following and enforcing clear and written meeting protocols as described in GP-4.2: Board Members' Principles of Operation.
- B. Board members who fail to follow governance policies, either during or outside of a Board meeting, shall be addressed using the Balanced Governance™ Progressive Response process as described in item 7A-D in GP-4.2: Board Members' Principles of Operation.

8. Continuous Board development shall include orientation of new Board members in the Board's governance process and organization of the District. New Board member orientation shall occur before the new member's first Board meeting. Seated Board members shall receive on-going, annual training in effective governance as described in item 15A-F of GP-4.2: Board Members' Principles of Operation.
9. The Board shall conduct a review of their annual self-assessment results (See item 8 above), and external evaluation results at a special meeting at least annually. Governance policies shall also be reviewed and revised at this meeting, as needed.